

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A device for storing and protecting a card ~~comprising~~ having ~~[[a]]~~ an electronic data-carrying element from inadvertent erasure of data and/or other damage, in the form of comprising:

a holder (1), configured to contain a card comprising an electronic data-carrying element, the card having a card width and a card length being longer than said card width, and the card being any of a bank card, key card, membership card, cash card, and payment card,

the holder comprising comprised of shielding metal sheets (2, 3) ~~so arranged that they~~ configured to envelop the data-carrying element of the card, ~~characterised in that~~

the metal sheets of the holder (1) ~~are~~ being produced from one uniform piece of sheet material that is bent or folded at a fold ~~so~~ such that the holder (1) has the form of a first sheet portion (2), and a second, parallel sheet portion (3, 4, 5) connected to the first sheet portion (2) via the fold, ~~and the~~ second sheet portion (3, 4, 5) being connected to the first sheet portion (2) at a distance from the first sheet portion (2) that

~~corresponds~~ corresponding approximately to the a thickness of the card to be protected, ~~and~~

wherein an area of the first sheet portion (2) ~~in terms of area is dimensioned so that it~~ is configured to ~~essentially~~ completely ~~overlaps~~ overlap the whole surface area of the card, ~~and~~

wherein an area of the second sheet portion (3, 4, 5) ~~in terms of area is dimensioned so that it~~ is configured to completely ~~overlaps~~ overlap the data-carrying element ~~in the form of a magnetic strip and/or a chip, integrated circuit or the like, arranged on or in~~ of the card, ~~when upon~~ the card ~~has been being~~ fully inserted into the holder (1), and

wherein the area of the second sheet portion (3, 4, 5) is further configured to extend a distance from the fold such that a surface of the card, extending over the entire card length, is exposed and not overlapped by the second sheet portion (3, 4, 5).

2. (currently amended) [[A]] The device according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein external plane sides of the holder (1) ~~on its external plane sides has applied thereto~~ have a layer or coating applied thereto.

3. (currently amended) [[A]] The device according to claim 2, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the layer or coating is

provided with distinctive marks in the form of a logo[[,]] or  
advertising ~~or other decoration or the like.~~

4. (currently amended) [[A]] The device according to  
claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the holder (1) is equipped  
with a suitable cleaning layer on ~~the inside~~ an inner surface of  
at least one of the sides sheets (2, 3) facing the ~~magnetic~~  
~~strip, optionally also the chip~~ electronic data-carrying element.

5. (currently amended) [[A]] The device according to  
claim 4, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the cleaning layer is made  
of one of a ~~suitable relatively~~ soft rubber material[[,]] and a  
felt material ~~or the like.~~

6. (currently amended) [[A]] The device according to  
claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the shielding metal is  
selected from the material class "Electrical Steel".

7. (currently amended) [[A]] The device according to  
claim 6, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the shielding metal is  
transformer sheet.

8. (currently amended) [[A]] The device according to  
claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the shielding metal has a  
thickness in the range of 0.25 - 1.0 mm.

9. (currently amended) [[A]] The device according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the shielding metal has a thickness of 0.29 mm.

10. (canceled)

11. (previously presented) The device of claim 8, wherein the shielding metal has a thickness of about 0.27 mm.

12. (currently amended) The device of claim 2, wherein the layer or coating is a wear-resistant material.

13. (currently amended) The device of claim 12, wherein the layer or coating is one of an elastomer and a suitable plastic material.

14. (currently amended) [[A]] The device according to claim 2, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the holder (1) is equipped with a suitable cleaning layer on ~~the inside~~ an inner surface of at least one of the sides sheets (2, 3) facing the ~~magnetic strip, optionally also the chip~~ electronic data-carrying element.

15. (currently amended) [[A]] The device according to claim 3, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the holder (1) is equipped

with a suitable cleaning layer on ~~the inside~~ an inner surface of at least one of the sides sheets (2, 3) facing the ~~magnetic strip, optionally also the chip~~ electronic data-carrying element.

16. (currently amended) [[A]] The device according to claim 2, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the shielding metal is selected from the material class "Electrical Steel".

17. (currently amended) [[A]] The device according to claim 3, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the shielding metal is selected from the material class "Electrical Steel".

18. (currently amended) [[A]] The device according to claim 4, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the shielding metal is selected from the material class "Electrical Steel".

19. (currently amended) [[A]] The device according to claim 5, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the shielding metal is selected from the material class "Electrical Steel".

20. (currently amended) [[A]] The device according to claim 2 ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the shielding metal has a thickness in the range of 0.25 - 1.0 mm.

21. (new) The device according to claim 1, wherein the data-carrying element is any of a magnetic strip and a microchip.